

Amendments from Housing: 31, 41, 68, 73, 78, 109, 130, 135, 163, 164, 178, 182, 183, 229, 248, 254, 255, 358, 403, 441, 504, 526, 540, 564, 566, 567, 572, 658, 738, 744, 760, 808, 877, 894, 916, 923, 937, 940, 948, 960, and 999.

Mr. Murphy of Burlington and others move to amend H.4100 in section 2, by striking item 7004-0101 and inserting in place thereof the following item:-

7004-0101 For certain expenses of the emergency assistance program as follows: (i) contracted family shelters; (ii) transitional housing programs; (iii) programs to reduce homelessness in Barnstable, Dukes, Hampden and Nantucket counties; (iv) residential education centers for single mothers with children; (v) intake centers; and (vi) voucher shelters; provided, that in fiscal year 2010, the department of housing and community development shall apply the regulations of the department of transitional assistance applicable to the emergency assistance program as in effect on June 30, 2009, except to the extent that such regulations are inconsistent with any provision of this item; provided further, that eligibility shall be limited to families with income at or below 130 per cent of the federal poverty level; provided, however, that any family whose income exceeds 130 per cent of the federal poverty level while the family is receiving assistance funded by this item shall not become ineligible for assistance due to exceeding the income limit for a period of 6 months from the date that the 130 per cent level was exceeded; provided further, that the department shall establish reasonable requirements for such families to escrow a portion of their income; provided further, that any such escrowed funds shall be exempt from otherwise applicable asset limits; provided further, that the family may withdraw the amount placed in escrow upon transition to permanent housing or losing eligibility for shelter services; provided further, that benefits under this item shall be provided only to residents who are citizens of the United States or aliens lawfully admitted for permanent residence or otherwise permanently residing under color of law in the United States; provided further, that the department shall take all steps necessary to enforce regulations to prevent abuse in the emergency assistance program; provided further, that no emergency assistance expenditures shall be paid from this item unless explicitly authorized; provided further, that eligible households shall be placed in shelters as close as possible to their home community unless a household requests otherwise; provided further, that if the closest available placement is not within 20 miles of the household's home community, the household shall be transferred to an appropriate shelter within

20 miles of its home community at the earliest possible date unless the household requests otherwise; provided further, that eligibility for shelter by an otherwise eligible family shall not be impaired by prior receipt of any non-shelter benefit; provided further, that the department shall make every effort to ensure that children receiving services from this item shall continue attending school in the community in which they lived prior to receiving services funded from this item; provided further, that notwithstanding any other general or special law to the contrary, the department shall immediately provide shelter for up to 30 days to families who appear to be eligible for such shelter based on statements provided by the family and any other information in the possession of the department but who need additional time to obtain any third-party verifications reasonably required by the department; provided further, that shelter benefits received under the preceding proviso shall not render a family ineligible under any regulation providing that a family who previously received shelter is ineligible for shelter benefits for a period of 12 months; provided further, that families receiving such shelter benefits who are found not to be eligible for continuing shelter benefits shall be eligible for aid pending a timely appeal pursuant to section 16 of chapter 18 of the General Laws; provided further, that the department shall not impose unreasonable requirements for third-party verification and shall accept verifications from the family whenever reasonable; provided further, that no family shall have shelter benefits terminated for failure to meet any savings requirement if failure to meet said requirement is because of the family's expenditures for nutrition, health or other expenses necessary to satisfy the family's basic needs that would not otherwise be met; provided further, that no family shall have shelter benefits terminated for failure to accept the first offer of housing if acceptance of such offer would require a member of the family to lose paid employment or access to adult education or training; provided further, that in promulgating, amending or rescinding regulations with respect to eligibility or benefits under this program, the department shall take into account the amounts available to it for expenditure in this item so as not to exceed the amount appropriated in this item; provided further, that notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, 60 days before promulgating any such eligibility or benefit changes, the undersecretary shall file with the house and senate committees on ways and means and with the clerks of the house of representatives and the senate a determination by the secretary of the executive office of housing and economic

development that available appropriations for the program will be insufficient to meet projected expenses and a report setting forth such proposed changes; provided further, that all of this item shall be subject to appropriation and, in the event of a deficiency, nothing in this item shall give rise to or shall be construed as giving rise to any enforceable right or entitlement to services in excess of the amounts appropriated by this item; provided further, that nothing in the preceding provisos shall authorize the department to alter eligibility criteria or benefit levels except to the extent that such changes are needed to avoid a deficiency in this item; provided further, that the department shall report quarterly to the house and senate committees on ways and means on the emergency assistance family shelter program; provided further, that the report shall contain the same data required in this item in chapter 139 of the acts of 2006 and in addition shall contain data describing all services funded through this item to prevent homelessness or re-house homeless families, the number of families receiving each of said services, the amount of expenditures on each type of service, and the stability of the housing of each household receiving such services periodically while the services are being provided and for one year after the services end, including whether the household continues to be housed in the same or a different unit, the percentage of household income that is being paid for rent, whether the household has its own unit or is living with another household, the total number of household members living together and the number of bedrooms in the unit in which they reside; provided further, that the department shall expend not less than half of the amount expended through item 4403-2120 of chapter 182 of the acts of 2008 for child development services delivered in shelters statewide through a program that installs playrooms staffed by trained volunteers; provided further, that the department shall expend the same amount as appearing in item 4403-2120 of chapter 182 of the acts of 2008 for non-profit organizations that assist in providing food, supplies, and services to the indigent and those in danger of becoming homeless; provided further, that not less than \$637,500 shall be directed to One Family Inc. for the purpose of administering and sponsoring a scholarship program for the higher education of heads-of-household for homeless families with children under the age of 18, or who are at-risk of homelessness as determined by the federal poverty level or who have experienced homelessness within the previous 12 months; provided further, that said funds shall be expended for scholarships and assistance with living expenses at

accredited institutions of higher learning in the
commonwealth; provided further, that each scholarship shall
be matched dollar-for-dollar by One Family Inc.; and provided
further, that the scholarship recipients shall be monitored and
tracked for their progress and that the results shall be reported
to the commonwealth on a bi-annual basis through the
department of higher education and the department of housing
and community development.....\$93,882,093

And further amend the bill in section 2, in item 7004-9024, by striking out the figures
“\$17,977,061” and inserting in place thereof the figures “\$35,797,061”.

And further amend the bill in section 2, in item 7004-9005, by striking out the figures
“\$66,300,000” and inserting in place thereof the figures “\$71,300,000”.